

From: Shawn [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2018 12:37 AM
To: eyewitnessreport [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Newport Beach California Helicopter Crash

Correction to my email - Tuesday 1/30 (not the 29th).

On Wed, Jan 31, 2018 at 9:08 PM Shawn [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello,

I just saw on the news that a helicopter crashed in Newport Beach on Tuesday 1/29.

I believe I witnessed the crash while driving home on the 73 freeway southbound at Newport Beach near McArthur Ave. I saw a red helicopter (appeared to be an R44 type from memory) that was just over the freeway. I was just finished speaking to my wife on the phone at 1:42 pm and it was shortly after that - maybe 5 to 15 minutes.

The helicopter was going down quickly diagonally. After passing the freeway it pulled nose up and appeared to try an autorotation while it continued to go down. It then exited my visibility and disappeared.

I looked for smoke as I passed and didn't see any. I then double guessed what I saw and assumed it was just practicing autorotation at John Wayne Airport. When I saw the news I realized it was actually on the opposite side of the airport (west of the freeway) and realized that I probably witnessed it.

I just thought you would like to know that it did look like the pilot attempted autorotation or pulled back, showing that he/she was aware and attempting to avoid a crash or respond to an engine problem.

I'm available should you have any questions. Although I am not a pilot I've been a student pilot in the past and have a very basic knowledge of flying. I am also a Lieutenant with the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department and was off duty at the time.

Take care,

Shawn Kehoe



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Sent from Gmail Mobile

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

-----Original Message-----

From: Laurie Kelly [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, February 2, 2018 1:59 PM

To: eyewitnessreport [REDACTED]

Subject: Helicopter crash in Newport Beach CA

I saw the helicopter coming in too low and then clear the power lines and hit my two of my neighbors homes behind me. My angle is unique as my driveway is the only one that sits at a 90 degree angle to the flight path and I was in my car getting ready to leave. (If you google me address you will see the uniqueness of my angle.)

I immediately dialed 911 and ran to the scene and relayed directions from the paramedics on the phone. I only left the scene as soon as the paramedics took over caring for the man from Idaho as we told them to check the victims in the helicopter first. Before leaving I made sure to leave my information with a police officer.

My husband did say that some NTSB people showed up to our house looking for a part of the aircraft on Wednesday, however I have yet to be contacted by the FAA and/or the NTSB to give an account.

Laurie Kelly
[REDACTED]

I want to make sure this does not happen again.